Withdrawal of the election requirement, or modification thereof to a surface modifier having a carbonyl moiety, is hereby requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 29785/10000 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: September 27, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By Richard H. Anderson

Richard H. Anderson
Registration No.: 26,526
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300
Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300
Attorneys for Applicant

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

1. (AMENDED) An allergen sorbent composition comprising a smectite clay having a cation exchange capacity of at least 75 meq./100 grams of clay, intercalated with an organic surface modifier intercalant molecule that contains at least one moiety selected from the group consisting of aldehyde, ketone, carboxylic acid, alcohol, phenol, ether, [catecol]catechol, lactam, lactone and pyrrolidone, said intercalant ion-dipole bonded [to an exchangeable cation] on an inner platelet surface of the clay; said surface-modified clay dispersed in a cosmetically acceptable carrier.

25. (AMENDED) A urushiol sorbent comprising a smectite type clay having a cation exchange capacity of at least 75 meq./100 grams of clay, intercalated with an organic surface modifier intercalant molecule that contains at least one moiety selected from the group consisting of aldehyde, ketone, carboxylic acid, alcohol, phenol, ether, [catecol]catechol, lactam, lactone and pyrrolidone, said intercalant being ion-dipole bonded [to an exchangeable cation] on a platelet surface of the clay.

26. The composition of claim 1, wherein the organic surface modifier intercalant molecule contains a carbonyl moiety and an alkyl moiety having at least 6 carbon atoms and is selected from the group consisting of a carboxylic acid, a ketone, an aldehyde, a lactone, a lactam, and a pyrrolidone.